(c) if so, the action Government propose to take to keep such Corporations in profit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) State Road Transport Corporations are managed by the State Governments concerned. As per information available, most of these Corporations, for which data is available, are incurring losses.

(b) Central Government had invested share capital in the Corporations under Road Transport Corporation Act, 1950, in the past. However, this scheme was discontinued by Planning Commission in the year 1993-94.

(c) Action for making Corporations profitable, needs to be taken by the management of Corporations which is vested in the respective State Governments.

**Road connecting Kishanganj to Gopalganj in Bihar**

†1751. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the road of National Highway Development Project connecting the country from West to East connects Kishanganj to Gopalganj in Bihar and its Detailed Project Report has been prepared; and

(b) if so, by when the construction work on NH-57 alongwith the construction of a bridge on the Koshi would commence and by which year the same would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) It is a fact that East-West corridor under National Highways Development Project connects Kishanganj and Gopalganj. The connection is *via* Purnea and Muzaffarpur. Detailed Project Report from Kishanganj to Purnea and Muzaffarpur to Gopalganj has been completed. Detailed Project Report from Purnea to Muzaffarpur is in progress.

(c) The work is targeted to be awarded by December 2004 and completed by December 2007.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.